

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A non-slurry composition for a sanitary ware body for use in preparing a slurry for slip casting, comprising agglomerates of a raw material powder for said sanitary ware body and having a water content of 0 (zero) to 25% by weight, wherein

said powder has a 50% average particle diameter of 1 to 15 μm on a number basis, and wherein a 50% average particle diameter of the agglomerates is 1 to 10 mm on a weight basis.

Claim 2 (original) The composition for a sanitary ware body according to claim 1, wherein said water content is 0 (zero) to 9% by weight.

Claim 3 (original) The composition for a sanitary ware body according to claim 1, wherein said water content is 3 to 7% by weight.

Claim 4 (original) The composition for a sanitary ware body according to claim 1, wherein said water content is 15 to 25% by weight.

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (withdrawn) A process for producing a non-slurry composition for a sanitary ware body for use in preparing a slurry for slip casting, said process comprising the steps of:

providing a raw material for a sanitary ware body;

adding water to the raw material for a sanitary ware body;

grinding the raw material for a sanitary ware body with water added thereto to prepare a slurry for slip casting; and

dehydrating and/or drying the slurry for slip casting to prepare the composition for a sanitary ware body.

Claim 7 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 6, wherein, in adding said water, a soluble salt for modifying the viscosity of the slurry is further added to the raw material for a sanitary ware body.

Claim 8 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 7, wherein said soluble salt is at least one salt selected from the group consisting of sodium

silicate, sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and a phosphoric ester.

Claim 9 (withdrawn) The process according to claim, wherein said drying is carried out by a spray dryer.

Claim 10 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 6, wherein said dehydration is carried out by a filter press.

Claim 11 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 6, wherein the viscosity of the slurry for slip casting is 200 to 1,000 mPa·s as measured with a Brookfield viscometer at a rotor rotating speed of 60 rpm.

Claim 12 (withdrawn) A composition for a sanitary ware body, which is produced by a process according to claim 6.

Claim 13 (withdrawn) A process for producing a sanitary ware, comprising the steps of:

adding water to the composition for a sanitary ware body according

to claim 1 and stirring the mixture to regenerate the slurry;

pouring the slurry into a slip casting mold and allowing the slurry to
cast on the mold;

taking the resultant green body out of the mold;

drying the green body;

coating glaze onto the dried green body; and

firing the glaze-coated green body.

Claim 14 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 13, wherein, in
adding said water, an additional raw material powder is further added for
regulating the percentage shrinkage at the time of said firing or for regulating
casting rate at the time of said slip casting.

Claim 15 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 14, wherein said
additional raw material powder is at least one material selected from the
group consisting of feldspar, dolomite, and nepheline.

Claim 16 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 14, wherein said

additional raw material powder is at least one material selected from the group consisting of pottery stone, silica rock, and alumina.

Claim 17 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 14, wherein said additional raw material powder is at least one material selected from the group consisting of china clay, ball clay, and plastic clay.

Claim 18 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 14, wherein the amount of the additional raw material powder added is 0.01 to 10 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the composition for a sanitary ware body.

Claim 19 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 14, wherein, in adding said water, a soluble salt is further added for modifying the viscosity of the slurry.

Claim 20 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 19, wherein said soluble salt is at least one salt selected from the group consisting of sodium

silicate, sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and a phosphoric ester.

Claim 21 (withdrawn) The process according to claim 19, wherein the amount of the soluble salt added is 0.001 to 0.2 part by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the composition for a sanitary ware body.

Claim 22 (withdrawn) A sanitary ware produced by the process according to claim 13.

Claim 23 (withdrawn) Use of the composition for a sanitary ware body according to claim 1, for the production of a sanitary ware.

Claim 24 (previously presented) The composition for a sanitary ware body according to claim 1, wherein said water content is less than 20% by weight.

Claim 25 (new) A non-slurry composition for a sanitary ware body for use in preparing a slurry for slip casting, comprising agglomerates of a raw material powder for said sanitary ware body and having a water content of

15 to 25% by weight, wherein said powder has a 50% average particle diameter of 1 to 15 μm on a number basis, and wherein the composition is in the shape of flakes or noodles.